

NEW YORK HERALD.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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NO NOTICE taken of anonymous correspondence. We do not return rejected communications.

Volume XXX No. 143

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—FEMALE DETECTIVE—VAMP.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—FARCE.

WINTER GARDEN, Broadway.—CAMILLE.

NEW BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—MORRIS CANTO—CANTO.

WALLACE'S THEATRE, Broadway.—HOW SUN LOVES HIM.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—PREFECTION—ELEPHANT BEAUTY.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway.—SEVEN DAUGHTERS OF SATAN.

BARNUM'S MUSEUM, Broadway.—A LIVING ALLIGATOR—FAT WOMAN—JANES, THE HISSER, OF THE HISSER—HISSEY—HISSEY—HISSEY.

BRYANT'S MINSTRELS, Mechanics Hall, 472 Broadway.—EUROPEAN SONGS, DANCES, BURLESQUES, AC.—STREETS OF NEW YORK.

WOODS' MINSTREL HALL, 51 Broadway.—EUROPEAN SONGS, DANCES, BURLESQUES, AC.—STREETS OF NEW YORK.

HILLER'S HALL, 50 Broadway.—SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS—THE WINE SELLER.

HIPPODROME, Fourteenth Street.—EUROPEAN, ORIENTAL AND ACOBATIC ENTERTAINMENTS—THE ELIZABETH OF NEW YORK.

AMERICAN THEATRE, No. 44 Broadway.—BALLETS, FANTASIES, SINGING, AC.—THE GOOD FOR NOTHING.

HOPE CHAPEL, 720 Broadway.—THE AMERICAN STRAIGHT-ACROBATS.

VANNUCHI'S MUSEUM, 60 Broadway.—MOVING WAX FIGURES OF FAMOUS LINDSEY, AC.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.—Open from 10 A. M. till 10 P. M.

New York, Monday, May 29, 1865.

THE SITUATION.

We publish this morning a list of the general officers and the colonels belonging to the Trans-Mississippi army of Kirby Smith, the surrender of which was announced in yesterday's Herald. Smith's command embraced all the rebel troops west of the Mississippi river, estimated to number twenty-five thousand. A New Orleans despatch of the 23d inst. states that General Price, Beauregard and Brent were the commissioners who arrived in that city on behalf of Kirby Smith to negotiate for his surrender, and that General Dick Taylor participated in the conferences which they had with General Canby.

A full and interesting account of the little fight near Boca Chica, Texas—the last battle of the rebellion—is furnished by our Brazos Santiago correspondent. The national force, under Colonel Barrett, was only three hundred. It started out for forcing purposes, and to surprise a rebel camp at Palmito Ranch, and was in the commencement of its movements very successful, capturing the camp and making other valuable acquisitions. Colonel Barrett's troops kept pushing on, driving parties of the enemy before them, till finally they found themselves confronted by about a thousand rebels, and were obliged to retreat. It appears that Colonel Barrett had been killed in the fighting, and only five wounded; but on his return to Brazos seventy of his men were missing. Many of these, however, afterwards made their escape from the enemy, and returned to camp. The rebel loss is not known. Great excitement was caused at Brownsville by the movements of Colonel Barrett's foraging party, the rebels there taking it for an advance on that place.

The Twenty-fifth army corps, under General Wetzell, will, it is said, commence marching for Texas to-day.

General Sheridan arrived at St. Louis on last Saturday afternoon. He was warmly welcomed by the citizens, and was surrounded at night.

It is said that the government has recently become possessed of additional evidence against the Canada rebel agents Jacob Thompson and Sanders, showing not only their direct implication in the conspiracy to murder President Lincoln, but also in Dr. Blackburn's infamous plot to introduce yellow fever into this country from the West Indies.

The removal by the President of the restrictions on trade with the South has already caused a great business revival in Savannah. The Custom House in that port has been opened, lines of steamers are now running regularly to the up river towns, communication with the interior is rapidly extending, cotton is arriving from the back country, new stores are being opened, and the city is fast approaching its busy anti-rebellion condition. It was expected that General Gilmore would issue an official order on the 26th inst., removing all restrictions on trade throughout the Department of the South.

A Calix despatch states that the Mississippi Legislature met at Jackson on the 26th inst., and directed the Governor to appoint commissioners to proceed to Washington and request President Johnson to call a convention to restore the State to its proper position in the Union.

R. M. Bruck, a member of the late rebel Congress, and formerly an officer on Breckinridge's staff, has issued from Augusta, Ga., an address to the rebel soldiers from Kentucky, in which he exhorts them to return to their homes and the peaceful pursuits of life, to observe with scrupulous fidelity the stipulations of their paroles, and to faithfully obey the laws of their country.

General Howard, Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau, has issued an order announcing that the disloyal former owners of abandoned plantations in the South now being cultivated by freedmen will not be allowed to dispossess the latter, which they are in some of the States making efforts to do, at least not until after the growing crops are secured for the benefit of their present cultivators.

A letter written on the 24th of last March at Washington, Georgia, by that fire-eating rebel, ex-senator Richmond Toombs, to a gentleman in Richmond, is very interesting, as containing a despondent prophecy or two which the tremendous events of the past few months have fully realized. Toombs at that time had "the most painful apprehensions for the future" of the slaveholders' confederacy, solely from his "conviction of the total incapacity of Mr. (Jeff.) Davis, and consequently the utter failure of all his petty schemes." Davis himself was regarded by Toombs as a complete failure, who was wittingly squandering the resources of the people on his favorites, and their only salvation was in his overthrow. General Lee Toombs did not think much more of than Jeff; and the enlistment of negroes to fight for the confederacy, which he considered a disgrace that must lead to the most fatal consequences, is characterized as "a piece of imbecile stupidity, as well as treachery to the cause, well worthy of Davis and Lee." Toombs concludes:—"We can win the fight if we can get rid of Davis; if not, not."

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

Some further important particulars have been gathered regarding the murder on Saturday in the woods near the Brooklyn city line, noted in yesterday's Herald. The name of the murdered man was Antonio Devolati. He was an Italian, and had been lodging for about two months previous to his death at 87 Oliver street, New York. The family, however, know little about him; but from papers found among his effects the police ascertained the names of many of his acquaintances in this city, from whom much has been learned which it is not deemed proper to make public at present, as it might frustrate the plans for apprehending the murderers. The body of the murdered man was taken to the Brooklyn deadhouse. When found it was still warm, there being a pistol shot wound in the back, the mark of a heavy blow under the right ear, and the head had been nearly severed from the shoulders by a slash with some sharp instrument on the back of the neck. A coroner's investigation of the case will be commenced to-day.

The coroner's investigation in the case of John Stewart, who was killed by being shot with a pistol during a festival at Jones' Wood on the 23d inst., was concluded at a late hour on Saturday night. The jury's verdict is to the effect that the fatal shot was fired by Patrick Curran, and he was committed to the Tombs to await the action of the Grand Jury. The jury further say that they consider Jones' Wood a public nuisance, and they suggest that the authorities should close it up.

James Quinn and Joseph Lynch were yesterday committed on charge of assaulting and stealing two hundred and twenty-five dollars from Peter Smith, early yesterday morning, in a drinking house on the corner of Canal and Allen streets.

John White was yesterday committed, charged with abstracting two hundred dollars from under the pillow of one of his fellow boarders, a marine named Richard Broderick, in his boarding house in Madison street.

F. W. Downing, keeper of a large beer saloon at No. 4 avenue A, was yesterday arrested and committed on a charge of having ignited in his premises a fire which was discovered burning there about one o'clock yesterday morning. The flames were extinguished after doing trifling damage.

The three upper floors of the distillery of Sumner & Brother, in East Thirtieth street, were destroyed by a fire which broke out therein about two o'clock yesterday morning. The loss is about fifteen thousand dollars, which is covered by insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown.

A young man named Calvin S. Morris, paymaster's clerk on board the receiving ship North Carolina, at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, committed suicide on Saturday night by shooting himself with a pistol. The deceased bore a good reputation on board the ship and among his acquaintances, and the cause for the rash act is not fully ascertained.

Kirby Smith's Surrender—What Next?

The war is over; the rebellion is crushed. The surrender to General Canby of Kirby Smith, the rebel general in command of the Trans-Mississippi Department, with all his forces, including the men and matériel of the rebel army and navy on that side the river, closes the contest and gives us peace. Never has there been a more formidable rebellion than this in the history of mankind; never such fanaticism and such tenacious and desperate fighting in so bad a cause; never such threatenings of continued war to the issue of independence or extermination, and never such a comprehensive, overwhelming and complete collapse.

This unprecedented collapse, however, is just what we have predicted a hundred times over since the beginning of the war as the event which would surely follow the capture of Richmond. This was not a haphazard prophecy, but a logical conclusion drawn from the situation, the necessities, and the inherent weaknesses, military, financial, moral and political, of the rebel government. It was thus apparent from the beginning that with the expulsion of Jeff. Davis and his Confederate rebel establishment from Richmond, there was no abiding city for him, no place of refuge this side of Mexico. We have always contended, too, that the overthrow of Lee's army would carry with it all the subordinate armies of Davis, and that, with their surrender or dispersion, those hordes of guerrillas which, according to Davis and the London Times, were to continue the war twenty years longer, would in reality vanish, like Macbeth's witches, "into thin air." In all these things, as in the great soldier who has done the work, our foresight, owing from the simple deductions of common sense, have become facts of history.

But still there appears to be something really miraculous in this sudden and complete collapse of a rebellious organization covering five hundred thousand square miles of territory, and with three hundred thousand fighting veterans still in the field two short months ago. Where are they now? Surrendered, disbanded and dispersed—regulars, irregulars, armies and guerrillas, they are no longer to be found. General Canby's despatch from New Orleans of the 26th, announcing the conclusion of arrangements for the surrender of Kirby Smith, was received in Washington on the 27th, which shows that, right through from New Orleans to Washington, the telegraph is in operation, and that not even a straggling rebel guerrilla remains in the field to cut the wires over all this line of over thirteen hundred miles through the heart of the late confederacy. Never in all the world has a rebellion so powerful and defiant been so thoroughly beaten or so decisively put down.

What next? President Johnson, in his work of reconstruction, has the labors of Hercules upon his hands; but from the graceful submission of the masses of the people of the late rebellious States, it is apparent that these labors will be materially lightened. The bulk of our soldiers and sailors withdrawn from the war will be quietly blended again with the masses of the people in the arts of peace. So

it will be, to a great extent, with the rebel armies. There will, however, be on both sides considerable bodies of men to whom the vocation of war or new adventures, even in other lands, will be an irresistible temptation. Especially will this be the case with the rebel troops, regulars and bushwhackers, of Kirby Smith's Trans-Mississippi Department. Thousands of these men, as wild and nomadic in their habits as the ancient Scythians, will find their way as emigrants into Mexico; and then what disposition can be made of them, we apprehend, will become a question so very perplexing to Maximilian and Napoleon as to drive them from the country in disgust.

New Financial Views—Paying Off the National Debt.

In another part of the paper we give, besides the additional subscriptions, a number of communications in relation to the proposed plan to pay the national debt—or proposing new plans. These communications, if they will do no more, at least show how lively an interest is taken in this question, and that the people are fully disposed to consider it in the proper spirit.

We proposed yesterday to modify the original plan by making subscribers for certain sums at once free from taxation. It seems possible to go further in this direction, and make this attractive point of exemption from taxes so tangible and definite that every property owner can realize it as a fact. This could be done by selling exemptions at fixed rates, the price of such exemptions to go with the other contributions for the settlement of the debt. If the Secretary will make this matter official he has in his hands the returns that will enable him to fix the rate of such exemptions very justly. There are men in the country who could afford to purchase their exemptions at a million dollars each, and the number of those who can afford to purchase exemption at even one hundred thousand dollars each is very large.

We do not believe that it is desirable to obliterate the whole national debt. Though we do not go so far as those who maintain that a great national debt is absolutely advantageous, yet we believe that a national debt within certain limits is beneficial to business communities. The limit is a plain one. It must not be a burden upon the people. Fix the limit, say at a thousand millions, and we believe that a debt of that amount would be a great, useful element in business transactions. The national banks are unquestionably a great advantage to business, and a part of the debt would be a proper basis for their currency. They will soon need three hundred millions of it. Seven hundred millions we would leave for the ready and safe investment of money by those who found investment in real estate over troublesome or unsatisfactory. This would bear a nominal interest, say three per cent.

There would thus be but two thousand millions to pay, and we would give those who contributed towards paying it the additional advantage of a preference over all others for investment in the remainder, which would then be the safest investment in the world. This plan would obviate the necessity of making any preparations for the return to specie payment, as specie payment would then come of its own account, and, indeed, would be inevitable within three years.

The Rebel Capital—What It Was and What It Is.

We publish in another part of the Herald a graphic and interesting account of a recent visit to the late rebel capital, from the pen of a gentleman who formerly did business there, and whose position entitled him to get a clear insight into its present condition. It shows into what a chaos of confusion that once prosperous city has fallen under the despotic sway of Jeff. Davis. The wonder is that the people there submitted to it so long. It is evident that every resort was had to false arguments, wicked fabrications and appeals to their pride, to keep them not only in profound ignorance, but steady in their ruinous mistakes. Everything that could mislead them was resorted to in order to secure their fidelity. Up to the last moment they were entirely deceived as to their approaching fate.

The social condition of the inhabitants was terrible. They were poorly fed, and were compelled to give up to the military authorities one half of their scanty stores of daily provisions. Bread and water furnished two of their daily meals. Boys of the age of fifteen years were torn from their families and forced into the ranks. The most respectable women were incarcerated for weeks at a time in filthy prisons on the mere suspicion of entertaining friendly sentiments towards the Union. Burglaries were common, and personal safety unknown. We learn from this statement many curious and amusing traits of the negroes, now suddenly developing their peculiarities, without constraint—the manner in which they are making themselves comfortable on the plantations, and their ideas as to wages and labor. We also get an insight into the present temper and tone of thought among the F. F. V.'s, now thoroughly disciplined into a recognition of their defeat, with still a lingering and not unnatural disposition to excuse themselves for their stupendous folly. It appears that there is quite a disposition in large numbers of those who have been impoverished by the rebellion to come North and employ their hands and wits in repairing their losses by diligent labor where labor is free, honorable and remunerative.

We also get an idea from this account of the impregnability of Richmond per se, as Mr. Tyler used to say, and also of the splendid strategy and persistent bravery and skill of General Grant in capturing the strongest fortified place in the world. We learn, too, the general conviction among the rebel officers, now going home after taking the oath of allegiance, that they have been soundly whipped, and that it is only fair to acknowledge it; also the anxiety of the people who have been most active as rebels to know what is to be done with them, and how they will finally be treated.

Now that the inside of the rebellion can be examined, it is evident that it was a great humbug and muddle from the beginning; that it had no abiding strength beyond that of the delirium of a patient in a high fever, whose efforts may be almost superhuman for a few moments, but soon fall off from exhaustion.

It is curious to notice also that as soon as our armies entered the city the greatest relief was experienced. Suspicious, distrust, order was restored, fraternity was cultivated; and, still stranger, that the city market was soon replenished with all kinds of wholesome and even luxurious food at rates cheaper than

these we meet with even in New York. This fact is suggestive, and indicates a wholesome return to the former condition of things with the "Mother of States" which, forgetting her once happy maternity, assumed for a time the character of Saturn, who was wont to devour his own offspring.

Opening of the Suez Canal—Its Future Results.

We publish to-day a fuller account of the opening of the Suez canal on the 7th of April, by the delegates from the Chambers of Commerce of all the world, together with a history of this great enterprise, which is destined, when finished, to affect so materially the commercial interests, not only of the Old World but of the New. The junction of the Mediterranean and Red seas will, when the canal is completed, bring Southern Europe to the very door of India, and, being entirely a French work, it will, of course, redound greatly to the glory and prosperity of France. The Southern ports of the French empire, such as Marseilles, as well as those of the whole Mediterranean coast, will be immensely benefited by it, as they will become the entrepôts for the commerce of the interior, bound for the Indian and Pacific oceans. The advantages to this country in our traffic with India, China and Japan may be easily comprehended from the fact that the distance from New York to Bombay will be decreased seven thousand five hundred miles. Heretofore we have been compelled to reach our Pacific coast and the rich lands of India and China by sea round Cape Horn; just as England can only connect by sea with her Indian possessions by doubling the Cape of Good Hope. All this old foggy mode of navigation will be abolished when the Suez canal becomes navigable for ships of large burden.

It is a noticeable fact that in the construction of intermarine communications France has always affected the idea of canals, while England, like ourselves, favored railroad connections. While we were confined to the Panama Railroad to cross the isthmus the French conceived the scheme of the Nicaragua canal, to put which plan on foot the celebrated Mr. Felix Belly was sent out there by Napoleon.

The Tehuantepec canal of our own conception, like the Nicaragua, never came to anything, and so we are still dependent for an overland route upon the Panama Railroad. The distance across the Isthmus of Suez is not much more than that across the Isthmus of Panama. Geographically considered, the two schemes were alike. England was in favor of a railroad to Suez, and it will be remembered that the English press has from the beginning opposed the canal scheme of Louis Napoleon. It has been sneered at as an impossibility, and remonstrated against as a danger, at the same time. It was urged that with such a means of communication at her disposal, France could send a fleet from Toulon, and before the news of its sailing was known it would be investing the most prominent ports of British India. The same would be true of our fleets if we had a navigable canal through the Isthmus of Panama. We too, in case of war, could start from Pensacola and be thundering at the gates of Bombay and Calcutta in a short time.

The London Times predicts that the Suez canal can hardly be made available, because it is constructed upon shifting sands; but it admits, at the same time, that whether completed or not, or whether fleets can pass through it, "the French acquire a footing there upon the most central and commanding point of the Old World," and that the Power which occupies a position on the isthmus "can at least maintain a force there in the face of three opposing continents, and stop the road to India."

The opposition of the British press to the French plan can thus be readily understood. The London Times, however, insinuates that England would have approved of the work only that it had to be constructed by slave labor, and "on that account alone she could not take part in the work." We wonder the scrupulous Times did not think of that idea when it was supporting with all its influence the cause of American slavery in our late rebellion.

The canal, however, is now constructed. The waters of the Mediterranean commingle with those of the Red Sea. Africa is an island. The southern coasts of Asia, with all the islands in the South Pacific, from Japan to Australia, will soon be approachable without long and dangerous voyages round Cape Horn, and the Cape of Good Hope—for it takes only twenty-four hours to go from the Mediterranean to the port of Suez; and, however much England may squirm at the point which France has gained in "stopping the road to India," all the rest of the civilized world will rejoice at what must be regarded as a great triumph of science and an agent of commercial enterprise.

NEXT FOURTH OF JULY A DAY OF NATIONAL THANKSGIVING.—We have mentioned the fact that Thursday next is to be observed as a day of national humiliation and prayer. This being probably the last chapter of our nation's lamentations on account of the rebellion, we may now look for some days of joy and gladness. We therefore expect a proclamation from President Johnson appointing Tuesday, the 4th of July next, as a day of national thanksgiving and praise, in glorification for the suppression of the rebellion, the restoration of peace, and as a humble token of devout thankfulness to Providence for still "preserving us as a nation." No more befitting day than the coming anniversary of our national independence could be selected by the President for the occasion of national thanksgiving. We might have in New York a parade of all our returned volunteers and veterans, who, united with our local military, would present a display eclipsing in magnificence and magnitude the late two days' review in Washington. Our city authorities should bestir themselves in this matter, and not shiver next Independence Day to pass without proper and glorious commemoration.

ABANDONED REBEL ESTATES.—The attempt now being made by the owners of rebel lands in Virginia and other States to dispossess the freedmen who had settled upon them after their abandonment, without giving them compensation for the crops grown by their labor, has led to a very proper order from the War Department. It is directed that all lands so circumstanced shall be retained in possession of the freedmen until the growing crops shall be secured for their benefit, unless an amicable arrangement for their immediate transfer can be come to with them. This is no more than just, and is sound policy in another point of view, as it will serve to pave the way for the new relations which the planters and the freedmen are about to occupy towards each other.

The News from Matamoros—Disputed Prosperity of That City.

We yesterday published some highly interesting news from Matamoros, Mexico, contained in the letters of our correspondent at that place. It is there plainly shown that the effect of our civil war has been most disastrous to that once thriving and prosperous city, as well as to the progress of Bagdad, a town at the mouth of the river, which was just expanding into great wealth and solidity. But a few months ago those places were in the height of the successful career which has attended them since the commencement of the war. So long as hostilities were kept up on American soil so long did splendid opportunities present themselves to the traders of Matamoros to grow rich and wax fat. Everybody who wanted to make lots of money in a hurry rushed to this Mexican Babylon. Those who arrived there in the earlier stages of the rebellion were very successful, and their representations to absent friends were so delightful that shoals of needy adventurers flocked after them, expecting to reap a like golden harvest. These people never for a moment reflected that the war was closing rapidly, that the rebellion had already received its death blow, and that, with the cessation of hostilities, the prosperity of Matamoros would speedily depart. Yet such was really the case.

With the fall of Wilmington the fate of Bagdad and Matamoros was decided. The closing of that rebel port was a sad affliction to the contraband traders of the Mexican border, as it came home to them and affected them in their own line of business. They trembled lest the fate of Wilmington should be that of Matamoros, and then it was that some of the adventurers began to see that their line was about run out. The train of causes and effect are well depicted by our correspondent. Gold and cotton soon began to fall, and as nearly all demand from the interior of Texas was cut off, business became stagnant, and the prosperity of the place soon passed away, even more promptly than its wealth had been accumulated.

There is now little or no trade at Matamoros, and there is nothing there to invite speculators, except the probability of an apprehension by the imperialists or liberals to assist them in the trenches, with a poor prospect of pay. Instead of adventurers rushing to Bagdad now, those who are there are doing their very best to get away, leaving their goods in the hands of agents to be sold at any sacrifice. The surrender of Kirby Smith and the last remnants of the rebel armies is another severe blow to these Mexican cities. What with the ravages of war in their midst and the total cessation of the immense trade they formerly held with the rebels, they will shortly relapse into total insignificance and be entirely forgotten as commercial centres of the Mexican republic.

Confederate Bondholders in Europe.

Our advices from Europe are interesting. The quotations in the London money market show increased confidence and some improvement in American securities. United States five-twelves being quoted at 64½, a 65. The surrender of Johnston's army did not produce any marked effect, that event having been regarded as a foregone conclusion.

The most extraordinary part of the news is, however, that which refers to the rebel loan, negotiated in Europe on cotton securities. The loan was never at any time a very solid or reliable investment; but as long as the confederacy continued to linger through its painful existence there were a few capitalists who were fools enough to throw their money away on it. Its fluctuations were quite remarkable. Sometimes it stood at 90 or 95, then receded to 40 and 50, and now it stands at 12 and 14. Most people, even those who are considered good financiers, are astonished at this curious exhibition of vitality in the rebel loan. They argue that now that the rebellion is over, its armies conquered and dispersed, and its principal leaders brought into submission, the rebel loan and everything connected with it should come down with a crash, and be no more heard of, except as a thing of the past. They cannot understand how it is that foreign capitalists will still think of an investment which everybody on this side of the water knows to be practically dead. But the matter is very easily explained. The rebel loan is based on large quantities of cotton supposed to be stored in different parts of the Southern States; and European bondholders, through the ravings and bombast of Mason and Sidel, the London Index and other cognate rebel organs, are led to believe that this cotton is still in existence, and that it will eventually be applied to the payment of rebel liabilities. The faith of capitalists in this fanciful theory is what gives a semblance of life to the loan.

But our friends on the other side of the water are somewhat mistaken about this matter. They seem to have forgotten that by the terms of surrender of all the rebel armies, forts, ships, guns, arsenals and munitions of war, there is no property of any kind whatever belonging to the exploded confederacy. There is not a bale of cotton other than private property throughout the South which does not now belong to the United States government. The rebels and their so-called confederacy are completely played out, and those who were credulous enough to believe in their "promises to pay" must now pocket the consequences. They have no money nor anything representing it. Their bonds—including those based on cotton—are just about as valuable as their Treasury notes, which are fast being gathered up by enterprising rascals for transmission to the paper mills, whence they will come out regenerated as printing paper for the newspapers—the only useful mission they will ever fulfill.

As for the moneys sent to Europe by Reagan, Davis and other rebels, there is no danger of any of it being applied to the payment of the holders of rebel scrip. This is the general prog of the swindling concern, sent out of the country on private deposit for the benefit of such of the rebels as might be fortunate enough to escape the clutches of the law. The number that may escape will fortunately be very small; but the division of the spoils will be so much the larger, and to the advantage of those who get off. But the prospect for the rebel bondholders is very gloomy. Their investments must now go for nothing. Not one single cent of their money will they ever see again, and they may as well nerve themselves to know the truth at once as hereafter. If they had taken our advice from the beginning, they would have kept out of so grievous a snare and difficulty. Now there is no help for them, and they must submit to their loss with the best grace that they can command.

GENERAL SHERMAN AND HIS TROOPERS.—We would advise General Sherman to stop his controversy with Secretary Stanton and General Halleck right where it is. He has already carried it far enough. This attacking superior officers is a dangerous thing, and is liable to lead to dangerous complications. If he is not careful he will soon find himself seriously embarrassed and encompassed with greater difficulties than that which he is trying to remove. His true course is to rest his case with the people, as the advocate, judge and jury. They have confidence in his ability and skill, and if he only allows them to settle his case for him, he need have no fear of the result. They will see that his fame is not tarnished by any hasty attacks of officials. But if he undertakes to carry on the controversy himself he may soon find himself a more obscure figure of a small section. He had better imitate the example and silence of his best friend, Lieutenant General Grant.

OPEN THE PRISON DOORS.—Now that the vestige of an armed force in hostile attitude to the government exists, President Johnson could not perform a more humane act than to throw open the prison doors to all who have been imprisoned for civil offenses, not essentially criminal, growing out of the late rebellion. Many citizens are now confined against whom no accusations have been made, or who are ignorant of the cause of their arrest. These men should be at once set at liberty, or at least have their cases transferred to civil tribunals, having jurisdiction within the limits where their offenses are alleged to have been committed. A preliminary step in this direction has been made by the War Department, in the order releasing from confinement all persons ordered to be imprisoned by military tribunals for civil offenses. Let President Johnson distinguish the earlier days of his administration by opening the prison doors to all small and innocent offenders.

THE COMING DAY OF HUMILIATION.—President Johnson having assigned by official proclamation Thursday next, June 1, as a day of special humiliation in consequence of the assassination of the lamented Lincoln, the occasion will, of course, be properly observed all over the re-United States. Although every city and village has already mourned in befitting manner the solemn event, yet no general or national commemoration of it has occurred. Therefore the coming day of humiliation and prayer will afford the American people throughout the length and breadth of the land an opportunity to unite in one grand and universal song of lamentation for the loss which befell the nation in the untimely death of the late President. It will be a general day of mourning and suspension of business—the last sad day, we hope and trust, our people will be called upon to observe from any sorrowful cause arising from the late rebellion.

SACRED CONCERT AT ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH.—The sacred concert at St. Stephen's church, the proceeds of which are to be applied to the enlargement of the church, which is now in progress, passed off last evening before a one-hundredth of the church.

The entertainment opened with an organ symphony by Mr. Max Bratten, which was followed by a quartet, defective in time, led by Madame De Lissan. The solo, entitled "The Martyr," by Madame Anselmi, was well sung. Next followed a duet by Madame Adeline Marie Celli and Signor Arduvini. This is the first appearance in the United States of Madame Marie Celli, who is mentioned as one of the Imperial Mexican opera. This lady's voice, judging it not only in the due but subsequently in the "guilt Diets," is not pleasing. The broken surfaces of the interior of the church may have added some harshness; but the material of the lady's voice has left no doubt of the skill and nasal accent of the German for the liquid, sweet and round tones of the Italian. The solo, "O God, and Naom," by Miss Louise Gaskell, was received by the audience with an inclination to applaud. Messrs. Otto Fleming and H. Millard sang solos. The solo with piano and violin obligato, "Ave Maria," by Madame De Lissan, Herr Jollenhauer and Mr. George W. Morgan, was a fine piece of harmony. The choruses, at different times, were sustained by the church choir.

Between the first and second parts of the programme the Rev. Dr. Cummings read a poem on "Religion and Music." From a single hearing we can hardly speak critically, but at several points a little something down of the rhythm and metre would greatly aid to the harmony of the verse.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.—One of the most artistically successful enterprises in the minstrelsy line that has ever been started in this city is that of the new troupe which is performing under the above title at Heller's Salle. Although new to us so far as their designation is concerned, they are not so in fact, as all the members of the company are established favorites. Wambold, the popular tenor; Billy Birch, the great slapstick master, and Charley Beckus, the best male on the stage, are so well known to our public that it is unnecessary to expatiate on their individual merits. United in the same troupe, under the able direction of Mr. Bernard, they offer to the public a combination that cannot easily be matched.

City Intelligence.

THE RETURN OF UNCLAIMED LETTERS.—The official order upon the subject of furnishing to the public stamped envelopes, bearing a printed request for the return of unclaimed letters, has already been published. It is an important matter, and all business men will be pleased to learn that the preparations are already being made to have it put in operation here, as well as in other cities, at no very distant date. The envelopes, properly printed, containing the address of the party using them, the request to return, and the stamp, are to be furnished without further expense to the writer, by the post office, in case of ordinary government envelopes. The work is to be done in New York. This means that it will be well done. One great objection to the use of stamped envelopes has been, that they were not returned, and the postmaster to refund the postage on all unclaimed stamps brought to them.

LIBRARY EXERCISES.—The literary exercises of the St. John's Debating Society, Fordham, will take place on Wednesday, May 31. The exercises will consist of a lecture on "The Cause of the Civil War," by the college at ten A. M.

THE FEMALE ART DEPARTMENT OF THE COOPER UNION.—This evening, at eight o'clock, the fifth annual reception of the pupils of the Female Art Department of the Cooper Union is to take place. The exercises will be of an interesting character. On Wednesday, from ten A. M. until five P. M., attention can be obtained to the exhibition rooms without tickets.

FIRE IN AVENUE A.—A HOUSE OF A MAN ON SUSPICION OF ARSON.—About one o'clock on Sunday morning a fire was discovered in the larger rear saloon No. 4 Avenue A. The alarm was given, and the firemen soon arrived and extinguished the fire. It appeared to have originated behind the bar, and in the vicinity of the gas meter. The saloon has been closed, and the premises about half an hour since the fire was discovered. The damage to the place will be about \$50; insured for \$400 in the Relief Insurance Company. The basement is occupied by William Mottling as a bakery. Damage by water about \$50; insured for \$100 in the Relief Insurance Company. The building is damaged about \$25. Officer John L. Von, of suspicion of arson. He was taken to the Essex Market Police Court, and committed by Justice Mansfield to await an investigation by the fire marshal.

FIRE IN EAST THIRTIETH STREET.—About two o'clock on Sunday morning a fire broke out in the distillery of a Sumner & Brother, 203 East Thirtieth street, and before the flames were subdued the three upper floors were burned out. The whiskey in the cellar was not injured. Mr. Sumner estimates his loss at about \$15,000. He is insured on stock \$15,000, as follows:—Jersey City, \$3,000; United States, \$2,000; Fire, \$2,000; Citizens, \$2,000; Hartford, \$2,000; and on the building \$1,000. The fire originated in the left bay on the second floor, a part of the building being used for a stable. The horse was killed by the fire. The origin of the present fire is not known, but Fire Marshal Baker has the matter under investigation.